

November 24, 1963

Mr. J. E. Curry
Chief of Police

Subject: Shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Sir:

Approximately three to five minutes before the prisoner was brought out, I observed a Channel 5 Camera mounted on tripod rollers come through the doors in front of the jail office to the ramp. I observed three men pushing the camera, one on each side and one man crouched down in rear head down as if pushing the camera. As the camera came down the slope from entrance to ramp, I grabbed one of the tripods to steady the camera. As the camera men pushed the camera into the ramp they turned slightly to the right, one attendant stated "We can't get out this way", they then pushed the camera into the crowd of newsmen on the East side of the ramp area and disappeared into the rear of the crowd. At this time I heard someone in the jail office door state, "Here he comes". As I looked towards the jail office door, I saw Lieutenant Swain come out. Approximately ten to fifteen feet behind Captain Fritz, Detective J. R. Leavelle leading Oswald (handcuffed) by the right arm. I could not identify the detective on Oswald's right. As both Leavelle, Oswald and unknown detective approached entrance to the basement ramp, I saw Jack Ruby lunge from the Northeast corner of the ramp area. I saw what looked like a blue steel snub nose revolver, almost simultaneously Ruby fired. Oswald let out a long "O-o-o-h". Several officers including myself attempted to grab the suspect. The suspect was then wrestled to the floor by several officers.

I know Jack Ruby and had not seen him in the crowd or building until I saw him lunge and fire at Oswald.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. Lowery
R. L. Lowery
Detective, ID#1081
Juvenile Bureau
Criminal Investigation Division

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